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to fill a gap.

The Common Cause

The Organ of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies.

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[The N.U.W.S.S. does not hold itself responsible for opinions expressed in signed articles or in correspondence.

All MSS. and letters relating thereto should be addressed to the Editor, The Common Cause, *Evelyn House, 62, Oxford Street, W. 1]*

Notes and News.

C.D. Regulations.

The London Gazette, of March 26th, published an Order making it a summary offence, under the Defence of the Realm regulations, for a woman suffering from venereal disease in a communicable form to have, or solicit, sexual intercourse with any member of His Majesty's Forces. A woman charged under the new regulation is to be remanded, if she so desires, for not less than a week, for the purpose of medical examination by her own or the prison doctor. We comment on this Order in a leading article. It has been issued at a time when Parliament is not sitting, when many people are away from London, and when the public anxiety about the military news is so absorbing that it is difficult for anyone to think of anything else. Nevertheless, the injustice contained in this punitive Order applied to one sex only, will not be allowed to pass unnoticed by the women's organisations. The Order is a danger to all women. It is, we believe, morally wrong, and, as readers of the article by Dr. Saleeby in our last issue will easily understand, it is medically worse than useless. It is, in fact, a danger to the commonwealth as well as to women.

Women Teachers and the Future.

Miss Conway, the new President of the National Union of Teachers, made some interesting statements in her presidential address to the Annual Conference of the Union which met at Cambridge on April 1st. She spoke of the Union's shortage of masters and mistresses, which is likely to be felt for many years to come. This shortage, though partly due to the war, is not by any means all due directly to enlistment, and it applies to women as well as to men. As Miss Conway pointed out, before the war numbers of women became teachers simply because no other career was open to them. The war has opened out many other fields of endeavour for women, and if the teaching profession is to attract the best women in the future the conditions of it must be so altered as to give scope for individuality. Since this is so, it is difficult to hear with equanimity that the supplementary grant of the Board of Education, which was intended to make the teaching profession more attractive, is actually being used by the authorities in London and in some other localities to make the differentiation between men's and women's salaries greater than in the past. Miss Conway has done well in telling the authorities plainly that this is the way to disaster. The supplementary grant ought, of course, to be shared out on an equal basis between men and women teachers of equal service. Women teachers are beginning to demand equal pay for equal work, and unless the demand is met in a spirit of justice, the best women will find themselves confronted with a grave difficulty in entering the profession. They will have to decide, not only whether they ought to embrace a career in which the conditions are so bad that the highest efficiency is almost impossible, but also whether they will not be doing injury to all women who are struggling for economic freedom by entering a profession in which that freedom is denied.

Equal Pay for Equal Work.

Nevertheless, the Conference did not pass the Equal Pay resolution, though they did not directly reject it. It was moved on Tuesday by Miss McCulloch and seconded by Miss Sweeny (both of Manchester). Mr. W. H. Young, of Liverpool, moved an amendment that, having regard to the fact that equal pay for men and women would result in women being placed in a much higher social status than men of the same recognised qualifications and professional position, the salaries of men should exceed those of women, *until such time as the state made adequate financial provision for wifehood and motherhood.* This amendment was carried by a show of hands, and, on a card vote being taken, the majority for it was found to be 16,717. It was then decided that there should be a referendum to members of the Union on the question "Are you in favour of equal pay for men and women teachers of the same professional status?" and that this vote should be completed in time for report to next conference. The Executive promised to obtain, as far as possible, the votes of members who are in the Services. It is very interesting that the N.U.T. have thus endorsed a belief, which is gaining ground in many minds, that the practical possibility of equal pay for equal work depends on the endowment of maternity. While men are expected by law and custom to "support" the family, and women's work for the family is unpaid, the difficulty of establishing the economic equality of women is obviously great.

A Woman Candidate for Parliament.

We are interested to learn that Miss Nina Boyle is going to Keighley to see whether the electors will support her in seeking nomination as a Parliamentary candidate. We understand that there is no *statutory* disability for women candidates, although it is possible that they may be regarded as inadmissible in Common Law, and returning officers may not be willing to accept nominations of women.

The Call for Women.

It is natural that the renewal of the great struggle on the Western Front should have, among its indirect effects, a fresh demand for the service of women. It will obviously be impossible to release soldiers for work during the harvest months, and the renewed call for women to work on the land is therefore a very real and very serious one. At the same time, the W.A.A.C.'s, the W.R.N.S.'s, and the V.A.D.'s are calling for more recruits, and the Women's Royal Air Force is now ready to enrol volunteers. The "Penguins" is the popular name for this new Service. We fear it indicates that the women, though belonging to the company of the winged, will not actually be allowed to fly. They will, however, have the opportunity of doing almost everything else which is connected with aeroplanes, and we understand that in some places clerical workers are much wanted. We are glad to learn that all questions of welfare, discipline, leave, medical services, discharges on grounds of urgency or compassion, and promotion will be controlled by women officers. The names of the senior officers selected will be announced shortly. Junior officers will be selected, as far as possible, from the ranks. All grades will have an equal chance of promotion, and all will be on the same footing as regards length of service—one year, or the duration of the war, whichever may be the greater period. Women who think of applying should make enquiries at their nearest Labour Exchange.

THE WOMEN'S MUNICIPAL PARTY

Non-Party

President and Chairman: THE DUCHESS OF MARLBOROUGH
Vice-Chairman: THE LADY FRANCES BALFOUR
Hon. Treasurer: MRS. PERCY BOULNOIS

Objects:

1. To promote the candidature of women for the London County Council Westminster City Council, Metropolitan Borough Councils, and Boards of Guardians, all Local Governing Bodies in Greater London and elsewhere as occasion arises.
2. To create a stronger civic feeling among women, and to increase their sense of responsibility with regard to the exercise of the Municipal vote.
3. To secure the placing on the Register of all women who are qualified for the Local Government Franchise, and to canvass those women who are already on the Register.
4. To secure support for administrative measures in the interests of women and children, and to educate public opinion concerning women's work in Local Government.
5. To organise Local Advisory Committees and Women's Municipal Party Citizen Associations.

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326	Town Councils	25 "
28	Met. Borough Councils	26 "
803	Urban District Councils	19 "
652	Rural District Councils	206 "

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An Order in Council.

Last week saw the worst example of "panic legislation" that the war has brought, for an Order in Council is equivalent to legislation in these days. The Order in question amounts to a restoration of the worst injustices of the Contagious Diseases Acts and puts every woman in the country straight into the hands of the police. It ordains that it shall be a "summary offence" for any woman to have or to solicit sexual intercourse with "any member of His Majesty's forces," and that a woman charged with this offence may, if she wishes, be remanded for medical examination.

It is not stated to what punishment she makes herself liable if she is proved (?) guilty.

This Order, it will be seen, greatly aggravates the existing injustices of the laws concerning solicitation. As they now stand, any man, and any policeman, has the power to give a woman in charge for solicitation. The accuser is not bound to appear in Court to support his charge, nor does even his name appear. Evidence is given by the police only, and very often (though this is irregular) by only one policeman. It is the word of one individual against another, and the policeman's word is almost always accepted. Under the new Order, the woman charged has, then, no escape but by submission to a repulsive medical examination.

Consider how vague an offence "solicitation" is, and the danger to every woman in the street is apparent. It is particularly great now when—in obedience to the country's need—thousands of women have left their homes and the district in which they were known to go to towns in which they are unknown and often lonely, and have no defence whatever in public opinion.

It appears also certain that if a woman charged with solicitation submits to a medical examination and is found diseased, her case is hopeless. But a married woman may be infected and remain guiltless. She may not even know that she is infected. She may have the vaguest ideas of what venereal disease is, and no knowledge at all of its symptoms. Yet, if she were charged with solicitation and found to be infected, what magistrate in the world will believe her innocent?

One of the two women involved in the recent notorious Brentford case was a married woman. Had she been found to be suffering from venereal disease, what would have been the verdict of the public? Yet it is because (we are told) so many innocent married women are being infected by their husbands, that women are urged to accept this infamous Order "for their protection."

Under this Order, if a woman is infected by her husband, being a soldier, she becomes guilty of a "summary offence" if she has any further intercourse with him; but he is guilty of no offence in infecting her.

Under this Order, a girl of 16 who solicits a man of 40 or 45 is guilty of an offence, but a man of 40 or 45 who solicits a girl of 16 is guilty of none. The age of protection for soldiers seems likely to be raised shortly to 48 or 50. The attempt to raise the age of protection for girls to 17 or 18 has been repeatedly defeated in the House of Commons.

An infected woman, who solicits intercourse with a soldier, which he knows he ought to refuse, is, under this Order, guilty of a crime. An infected man, who solicits intercourse with his wife, which she is bound to admit, is guilty of none. The "family histories" of such wives, chronicled by doctors and set down for all to read in the Report of the Royal Commission on Venereal Diseases, is one ghastly record of miscarriages, stillbirths, and births of congenital idiots, babies who survive only a few weeks, and babies who live to be blind, deaf, or both blind and deaf. The state of the mothers is not recorded, but may be guessed. The man responsible for these horrors is guilty of no offence in the eyes of the law or police. He was and is liable to no punishment. All that can happen is that his wife, after infection, can get an Order for separation,* and, as even this is felt to be giving her too much "protection," it is rendered largely ineffective by keeping her in complete ignorance of the nature of her disease and rendering the doctor liable to an action for libel if he tells her.

This Order, we are told, is necessary in the interests of the army. How many battalions of soldiers have been lost to the nation owing to the appalling infant death-rate due to the infection of married women by their husbands?

It is necessary in the interests of the army. But the German and French armies are struggling with the same problem after

* Or divorce, if the husband contracted the disease after marriage.

years of strictly "regulated" vice, and the power to examine any woman charged with solicitation.

The interests of the army! How has the Government cared for them? It is well known that alcoholism is one of the main factors in the social problem. But the authorities have not prohibited the sale of alcohol to soldiers; they have only licensed the sale of women. It is equally well known that the soldiers, weary, exhausted, overstrained, need some relaxation and some care when they come from the trenches. It has been left to the Y.M.C.A., the Church Army, and other voluntary organisations, to supply these. Is the Government content only to supply brothels?

Venereal disease then spreads. Is it surprising? Men cannot be treated as though they were mere fighting animals. They are more than this; and the country which takes their bodies should remember that they have minds and souls as well. There is no sacrifice which the women of Great Britain will not make for the soldiers, except the sacrifice of those very ideals of freedom and justice for which those soldiers are content to die.

Equal Pay for Equal Work.—II.

In a preceding article it was argued that at bottom the low level of women's wages was a question of supply and demand in the labour market; that the demand for women's labour was restricted, not merely by physical capacity, but to a very large extent by tradition and prejudice; and that the evil effects of over supply were hugely intensified by the industrial weakness, the disorganisation of the mass of women workers. It was further argued that this disorganisation was due, among other things, to their lesser incentive to organisation, resulting from a comparative absence of permanent interest in industrial conditions and of the stimulus of dependent families. In what way, then, does this last admission diverge from Miss Rathbone's view that the inferiority of women's earnings is primarily and fundamentally due to the responsibility of the mass of male wage earners for financing the coming generation?

In the foregoing dissertation, be it noted, the fact of family dependence on the male wage earner has been treated as an indirect factor in the determination of wages—as reflecting itself in the wages rate through its influence on the workers' will to fight for a larger share in the national income. But Miss Rathbone appears to go further. She regards this particular cause for the discrepancy between men's and women's wages as "by far the most important of them and one of which the rest are really by-products"; she sums the matter up by the statement that "the wages of women are, broadly speaking, based on the cost of individual subsistence; while the wages of men are, broadly speaking, based on the cost of subsistence of a family." And as a logical conclusion, she insists on the impossibility and on the inequity of attempting to abolish the discrepancy in wages without at the same time attempting to abolish the discrepancy in economic burdens.

Now all this suggests very strongly that in Miss Rathbone's opinion the tendency of wages to approximate to the workers' cost of subsistence—so far as it exists—is due to something more than the strength or weakness of the worker in making his needs felt. It suggests that there is some sort of half-conscious acceptance on the part of the employer of the justice or expediency of paying a family wage to the male wage earner. Indeed, there are those, and they find themselves in the excellent company of Adam Smith, who go still further and optimistically assume a kind of far-sighted corporate consciousness of economic self-interest on the part of employers which induces them to pay a family wage to male wage earners because they realise that by so doing they are rearing a future generation of workers for their own or their successor's benefit.

Obviously, any such assumption ignores, in the first place, the fact that free wage earners, unlike slaves or cattle, cannot be bound to the service of an employer who chooses to spend money on rearing them, and that therefore the individual self-interest of the employer in paying an adequate family wage does not really go beyond the desire to attract efficient labour at the moment, in so far as that can be done without unduly raising the costs of production. It ignores, in the second place, the fact that under existing industrial conditions the corporate self-interest of the employing class is modified by the struggle of competing firms to produce cheaply. It ignores, in the third place, the fact that the "exhaustive cultivation" of labour is going on all round us wherever the employer is strong and the worker weak, and that such "exhaustive cultivation" may, under the present industrial system, pay the individual employer at the expense of the community as a whole. The fact stares us in the face. Wages in many cases actually do fall below the cost of subsistence, individual subsistence where an independent woman is concerned, family subsistence where a married man is concerned; just as in many more cases they rise permanently above it.

To all this, no doubt, Miss Rathbone will reply in the words of Florence Nightingale's renowned professional ancestor, "Who deniges of it, Betsy?" Nevertheless, the writer is suspicious. What, exactly, in Miss Rathbone's opinion, is the connection between wages and the workers' cost of subsistence? By what play of economic forces is the latter reflected in the former? Is it something more than a very emphatic insistence upon the extent to which the worker is able by his own exertions to make his economic needs a determining factor in the wages bargain?

Meanwhile, a difference of opinion regarding the comparative importance of the various factors governing women's wages gives rise to very diverse conclusions regarding the practical possibilities of equal pay for equal work. Miss Rathbone considers the one cause of divergence so preponderantly important that nothing but its removal can justify us in pressing our demand. But taking the causes set out in the preceding article, and according to them all a fair share of weight, we find quite a number of points at which we can attack this state of affairs which we all so bitterly resent.

We can attack it on one flank by attempting to improve the conditions of demand for women's labour—by devoting ourselves to the hammering open of closed doors, the widening of that restricted area in which women have been forced to compete. And as things stand to-day, this task involves, or will involve, the keeping open of doors which may be inclined to slam with a puff of contrary wind. The N.U. may therefore regard its suppoirt of the Women Solicitors Bill as a tactical move in the fight for equal pay for equal work.

But we can also, and, if our first positions are to be held, we must also attack it from the other flank by attempting to improve the conditions of supply of women's labour by promoting, wherever possible, the organisation of women workers. Here, again, women's trade union work, especially the initiation of new women's unions such as the Women Welders may be regarded as a second tactical move in the fight for equal pay for equal work.

Thirdly, we can strike at our enemy's morale by cutting away, in the manner indicated by Miss Rathbone, the real or asserted social justification for the wages discrepancy. So it is that the demand for the Endowment of Motherhood becomes part and parcel of the great campaign.

And having realised the complexity of our battle-field, and the vital bearing of our "side-shows" on the main issue, why should we not make something like a frontal attack upon that tiresome outer defence of tradition and custom. Why should we not help to set the new standard by boldly demanding "equal pay for equal work" in the civil service, in the municipal service, in Government factories, wherever we are in a position to make effective use of the excellent new artillery to whose manufacture we have given fifty years or so of our best energy?

Mary Stocks.

Has the Labour Market Gone Mad?

To sane students of the subject, it would seem so—at least as far as female labour is concerned.

At first, and indeed for a considerable time after war had broken out, many employers not only ignored, but flatly refused to employ women. Then came a change—drastic as it was sudden—when girls just leaving school were offered anything from £1 per week upward for doing nothing more (and often a good deal less) than an office boy would, in pre-war days, have been paid 10s. per week to do.

Taking into consideration the higher cost of living, few women would have found cause for complaint had salaries gone up proportionately all round; but unfortunately this was not, and still is not, the case. Thus, anyone sufficiently interested can to-day see women—capable and fully trained—occupying responsible and confidential positions at a salary, to say the least, absurd when compared with the school girl's or the many other inexperienced workers to be found in receipt of salaries since war commenced.

To prove that what I have just stated is not exaggeration, I can take anyone who doubts the veracity of such statements to an office where a girl just turned fifteen, and of necessity (seeing that she left school in order to take up her present position) without even the semblance of business training or experience, is being paid £1 per week, exclusive of a war bonus, for the simplest of clerical work, while in another office a woman of forty—capable to her finger tips—and with years of business experience behind her, reigns supreme over a staff of women, all employed on work of strictly national importance, for which responsibility she is remunerated by the princely salary of a little over £2 per week.

"If she is dissatisfied, let her change," suggests someone, and the suggestion is a natural one, but may I remind that someone of the fact that comparatively few good Government, or other positions for that matter, are nowadays open to women already employed on Government work.

Another class of women workers who surely have just cause for complaint are the G.P.O. clerks. It would be interesting to have a detailed list of all the additional work piled on to these women and girls during the last three years, and also to what extent their weekly earnings have been raised.

I wonder whether the following point in connection with the present-day salaries paid to inexperienced—and so often incompetent—workers has ever struck the average employer—viz., *Where is the incentive to specialise or become really proficient nowadays?* Voicing the plaint of the many girls once so inclined, I say emphatically *there is no such incentive nowadays.*

If England, as a nation, were but playing at war—or, in other words, overpaying these girls till the men to whom we owe the fact that there are any firms left in England to pay such salaries, come back to take up their old positions, matters might assume a less serious aspect. But, as we know, things are not so, and while many of our men will come back to take up their old duties, some, alas! will never return, while yet others without a doubt will seek other modes of earning a living, therefore it is "up" to the women and girls now taking these men's places to prove their worth and efficiency.

All honour to those women and girls who are to-day adapting themselves to business and other routines in such a way as to be of real use to their employers, but till this is proved without a doubt, to pay the same wage to an untried and untrained worker as to one fully trained (on whose shoulders, in so many cases, lies the onerous and not always pleasant duty of initiating the newcomer into her work) is nothing less than a dead insult to the "old hand."

How is such an insult to be removed, and matters placed on a fairer and more businesslike basis? Well, one way would be to pay *all* workers a living wage, and once this rule had been complied with, every women to be paid according to her capabilities and true worth.

In case I appear to have probed into but one side of this big, and to many, vital question, I want to emphasise the fact that so many women with whom I have talked on the subject (and here I allude in particular to the numbers of women now working for a salary for the first time in their lives, and even now, not from necessity) have themselves candidly and emphatically refuted the lame excuse put forth by some employers when taking on new hands, that "high wages must be offered, or the workers will not be forthcoming," by reminding those sufficiently interested to listen how, primarily, they set out intent on releasing some man for military service, and quite prepared to do so at some cost and sacrifice to themselves. And how has this intended true patriotism been rewarded or encouraged.

The gist of the whole matter is this—Can these high salaries for inefficient labour be continued? If not, why were they started?

Meanwhile, "old hands" grow bitter and discouraged, our wounded and other deserving cases multiply to an alarming extent, while the fate of one of our largest and most needed hospitals hangs in the balance!

C. H. Isles.

Victorian Heroines.

I.—The Women in Peacock's Novels.

Peacock is not a well-known name in the ranks of nineteenth century novelists; nor will he ever be popular. The guests at his feast are few, but they enjoy themselves whole-heartedly, sit late in an atmosphere jovial with wine and song and good fooling, and come away enriched with the intellectual pleasure of good satire and the human pleasure of good company. His so-called novels are a blend of drama, description, argument, and song, strung on the very flimsiest thread of narrative, but they contain real observation and knowledge of human nature, a perfect genius for caricature and a wealth of fantastic and uncommon learning. His friends called him "the laughing philosopher," and his view of life is that of a spectator at a comedy: "the world is a stage, and life is a farce, and he that laughs most has most profit of the performance."

Peacock's shrewd eyes were not likely to ignore the spectacle of women's education in his day, and both in his direct arguments on the subject and in the pictures of women in his book, we have his comment and his own ideal. Anthelia Melincourt, the first of his characteristically unusual heroines, has been brought up, he tells us, by a father who was "one of those who maintained the heretical notion that women are, or at least may be, rational beings, though from the great pains usually taken in what is called education to make them otherwise, there are unfortunately very few examples to warrant the truth of the theory." Mr. Forester, in the same book, has similar ideas. "You have a better opinion of the understandings of women, Sir, than the generality of your lordly sex seems disposed to entertain," says Anthelia to him, and he replies: "The conduct of men in this respect is much like that of a gardener who should plant a plot of ground with merely ornamental flowers, and then pass sentence on the soil for not bearing substantial fruit. If women are treated only as pretty dolls, and dressed in all the frippery of irrational education; if the vanity of personal adornment and superficial accomplishments be made from their very earliest years to suppress all thoughts of intellectual beauty, is it to be inferred that they are incapable of better things? But such is the usual logic of tyranny, which first places its extinguisher on the flame and then argues that it cannot burn."

Peacock himself, the pagan philosopher, the lover of old wine and old learning, comes nearer romance and even idealism in his attitude to women than in any other part of his writing. He loves to endow them with all the mystery, the beauty and the strength which he feels indwelling in Nature. Anthelia has the loveliness of a young wild thing. The forms and energies among which she passed her childhood moulded her character and her mind. She is a part of the beauty of "the misty mountain top, the ash-fringed precipice, the gleaming cataract, the deep and shadowy glen, and the fantastic magnificence of the mountain clouds." She is in harmony with the rush of winds, the whispering of woods, the dash of mountain streams. It is the same with Maid Marian. She, too, loves "the living out-of-doors" better than all the luxuries of a sheltered life. She wants no state but that of the friendly forest; "the goodly grove for a palace; the oak and the beech, its colonnade and its canopy; the sun, the moon and the stars its everlasting lamps; the grass, the daisy, the primrose and the violet its many coloured floor; the mayflower, the woodbine, the eglantine and the ivy its decorations, its curtains and its tapestry; the lark, the thrush, the linnet and the nightingale its unhired minstrels and musicians." She had rather go a-hunting than hear matins: she sings with Brother Michael—

> "And the only beads I love to tell
> Are the beads of dew on the spangled thorn."

Yet when a stranger knight is slightly scandalised at a recital of how she sent a clothyard shaft over Brother Peter's head when he remonstrated with her about ghostly matters, and asks "Is this lady, then, so very terrible a damsel?" Brother Michael replies: "By no means. She has certainly a high spirit, but it is the wing of an eagle without his beak or claw. She is as gentle as magnanimous, but it is the gentleness of the summer wind, which, however lightly it wave the tuft of the pine, carries with it a power that, if roused, could make it bend to the dust."

It is, indeed, the freshness, the vitality, the debonair quality of a fine spring morning that Peacock's girls remind us of. They are never "pretty dolls." They are of the race of Beatrice and Rosalind and Elizabeth Bennet, full of gaiety and good sense, wit and wisdom. Marionetta, in *Nightmare Abbey*, Lady Clarinda in *Crotchet Castle*, and Miss Gryll in *Gryll*

Grange, all possess the same vivacious charm. Lady Clarinda is a good example of their spirit. She is full of good bracing advice to her poor suitor: "You live a very pleasant life as a bachelor, and I am not fit to be a poor man's wife. I cannot take any kind of trouble or do anything that is of use. Many decent families, I know, roast a bit of mutton on a string, but the bare idea of such cookery gives me the horrors."

Like Miss Gryll, who confesses to "an unbecoming propensity to laugh" at the idea of attending a lecture on fish by Lord Curryfin, all Peacock's women possess a gift of delicate mockery which keeps them sane and sound in judgment. Like Jane Austen's women, they have no intensity of passion or spiritual experience, but they are living, tonic, vivid, and they testify better than anything else in his work, to Peacock's sympathetic humanity. He is primarily a satirist. His pose of perpetual ridicule, indeed, has earned him, with some, the name of cynic, but underneath his caustic irony is a real love of simplicity and good fellowship, and a streak of real tenderness and idealism; and nowhere is this better illustrated than in his portraits of women.

E. A. Drew.

Stifled.

By Mrs. John Menzies.

In one of his books Max Muller tells the following Eastern legend:—

The gods, having stolen man's Divinity from him, met to consider where it should be hidden. One suggested it should be thrown into the sea, but another said "No, man in his curiosity might take to diving and so discover it." Another proposed carrying it to the other side of the world and there burying it, but the objection was made that the same fatal curiosity would lead to its discovery. At last, one full of wisdom and years whispered "Let us hide it in man himself; he will never think of looking for it there."

And it was so.

"Yah——boo——oo——oo!"

The monotonous cry became a crescendo, and Lily Barrett threw her iron down on its stand with a bang.

"Shut up," she remarked tersely, picking up the tiny person from the floor and tucking him under her arm. With the other hand she deftly filled a small saucepan and placed it on the fire.

A few minutes later "Jerry" was being fed on warm soaked bread, eyeing his mother reproachfully the while. The dark eyes in the small wizened face were uncannily intelligent.

"Beastly stuff!" As plainly as a look can speak, that was his opinion, and his mother clutched him to her with a sudden pang. It was so impossible to give him the one thing needful—that elixir of life, retailed at 8d. per quart.

* * *

Life was a gloomy business. So decided Jerry, the philosopher of three. Insufficiency of warmth in the nether garments has a depressing effect, and minimises the joy of sitting on the kerb. Also a fine sleet was going down his neck . . . . and he was hungry again . . . and Dick had taken away his train, the lovely train mother had made out of two matchboxes . . . and a large tear slipped from the long lashes and trickled down the grimy little cheeks. Where was mother? But he forgot mother had to go out to work . . . then where was Sarah who "looked after" him on these occasions? He glanced round anxiously for the familiar pigtail and long legs named Sarah, but he was alone . . .

* * *

"Wot's the latest?"

"Dunno—ain't none." With a defiant whisk of his newspaper bag, Jerry ran on up the road. It was beginning to rain, a bitter wind whistled round the corners, the bag felt heavy, and his fingers smarted cruelly now the first numbness had worn off.

It took some doing, delivering all those papers and getting to school in time . . . and how he'd love to thrash Dick Turner!

In school, presently, Jerry did not shine as one would have expected from his sharp little face; but after running round in the rain and cold since seven o'clock delivering papers, a man of nine years gets a bit sleepy as school goes on.

* * *

Freedom at fourteen! Jerry stretched his narrow chest and gave his mother a patronising kiss as he started for his day's work. The baker's baskets were alarmingly heavy—they bent his small body "somethin' crool" as he afterwards told Dick; but now he was a man, helping mother.

* * *

The years went on, and Jerry, though he grew no taller, developed a darkening upper lip and other signs of incipient manhood. But the boy himself, the mental and spiritual Jerry, had no room to grow. Instead, blindness, ineptitude, were settling down on every latent power; the always undernourished frame just managed its day's work, but there was no energy over.

"Come an' 'ave a look at the picters!"

Dick's shrill voice sounded in the doorway, and Jerry looked up from his tea.

"Anythin' good on?" he asked nonchalantly, with his mouth full.

"Not arf," was the reply. "Jack Gibbons says it's a real buster—a murder and a 'angin' in it for certain," he added darkly.

Jerry seemed refreshed. "All right, I'm on," he said, shovelling in his food as rapidly as possible, and a few minutes later the two boys were in the street.

On their way to the picture house they passed a concert hall where a glorious human voice was opening heaven for those who had ears to hear—then they came to an ancient church, in which one of our finest preachers, a man of genius, was speaking words of fire—and a little further on they passed the library, a treasure house of the ages in which pearls of great price were to be had for the seeking. But the boys knew nothing of these things, and cared less.

* * *

No mental or spiritual food could be found in Jerry's squalid home, and although they might perhaps have been procurable at night schools and evening classes, the tired body made a tired brain. The only thing left was a cinema. What an opportunity for the cinema!

And what are Jerry's prospects now? For the first sixteen years of his life his physical organism has been systematically ill-used in the matter of food, pure air, cleanliness, clothing. Is that likely "to pay" the State in the long run?

As for the Real Boy, the spiritual creature, what are the wonders of life to him, the wisdom of the ages, the thoughts and aspirations and deeds of our noblest men and women? He knows nothing about them. His very playtime was cut short by the necessities of "earning," and the living soul of the child has been atrophied by his unnatural existence.

There has been no room for the ideals and ideas which give life its value and beauty, its charm and joy.

So we come to the tragedy. A human soul from the hand of God, with potentialities beyond our ken, is stultified, bound, robbed of its birthright, by the selfishness and blindness of its fellow men.

On this plane, Jerry can never reach his full stature—and there are millions of him . . .

Are his young brothers and sisters to share his fate?

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Hundreds of girls waiting to use it. Please send YOUR "bit" TO-DAY!

Cheques, postal orders, etc., should be addressed to the Editor of "The Common Cause," *Evelyn House, 62, Oxford Street, W.1.*

To the Editor of "The Common Cause," Evelyn House, 62, Oxford St., W.1.

Dear Madam,

I enclose my "bit" towards "The Common Cause" Hut for our Girls in France, viz.: _____

wishing it every success.

Signed _____

Address _____

Reviews.

Faith, War, and Policy. By Gilbert Murray. (Oxford University Press. 6s.)

This is a collection of essays and addresses delivered during the war, some of which will be remembered with pleasure by former readers. They are brought up to date by an illuminating review of the present international situation.

Professor Murray's attitude is a complex one. He believes that peace depends a good deal on the mood of the country. Too often "it is the war-mood that has . . . shaped the dominant attitude of mind in the governments of all the belligerent countries," but we must acquire the "settlement-mood" if we are to convince public opinion in Germany that we are willing to make "a fair and democratic peace." Professor Murray believes that German Socialists could be won over by this attitude on the part of the Allies. But until the enemy desires such a peace, he sees "nothing for it but to fight and endure like grim death."

Where there is room for an honest difference of opinion is in the way this change of heart in Germany may be induced. Some people believe it will *never* be induced while German military supremacy continues almost unchecked, although unable to snatch a victory by force of arms. Professor Murray, on the other hand, believes that "an independent peace"—*i.e.*, "a peace . . . by a process of haggling between the various large interests concerned"—is a peace in which "smaller and weaker nations go to the wall, and "Principles" or "Ideals" are nowhere. Thus a policy of Peace by Conquest would probably end in a Peace by Betrayal." Whether this is really so, and whether the mass of the people are capable of combining a "Settlement-mood" with a mood to fight on and endure all the horrors of war, is the great problem. The question one asks is whether we are fighting to gain time while a "Settlement-mood" grows up in Germany, or to show the Military Party in Germany that justice and right must be established by a victory in the field if they cannot be obtained by consent.

What gives Professor Murray such a sane and dispassionate influence for good in this connection is his balance and impartiality and his almost tender appreciation of the working of men's minds, which brings him so many sympathetic readers. No one can read "The Herd Instinct and the War" without becoming conscious of the pitfalls which lie about the feet of those who would judge righteously in this quarrel, and the whole book must be read and should be enjoyed by Professor Murray's large circle of admirers of all schools of thought.

Rosamond Smith.

The Scottish Women's Hospital at the French Abbey of Royaumont. By Antonio de Navarro. (George Allen & Unwin. 7s. 6d. net.)

We wonder how many of the subscribers to the Scottish Women's Hospital at Royaumont realise the peculiar historical interest of the surroundings among which the work is carried on. In Mr. de Navarro's book they will find not only a great deal about the hospital and its devoted staff but an account of the origin and greatness of the Abbey, and later, alas, of its melancholy decline and fall.

Built with funds derived from the sale of the jewels and crowns of Louis VIII., the early years of the Abbey are interwoven with the life of the saintly son of the founder. Saint Louis himself, on many occasions during the construction of the Church and monastical buildings, acted as an assistant mason, together with his brothers and the nobles of his Court. In 1234 the Abbey Church was the scene of his marriage, and in the following year it witnessed a splendid and gorgeous scene in the consecration of the building. All his life the prosperity of Royaumont was very near his heart. He endowed it richly with gifts of land and property; he founded there a great library; and spent much time at the Abbey, occupying the Royal cell, and ministering to the sick and the poor.

Less than a century later began a series of "conflicts between the Papacy and the Kings of France," and this, with the incessant wars and a general decline in the monastic spirit itself, led to a gradual loss of prosperity at Royaumont, culminating in the destruction of the great Abbey Church by order of the Commune in 1791. This act of vandalism destroyed a fine specimen of thirteenth century Gothic architecture, designed, it is believed, by Pierre de Montieuil, the architect, at a later date, of the Sainte Chapelle in Paris.

The present occupants of the old Abbey are worthy of the noble spirit which must have inspired the founders of the great

mediæval monastery. They are surely in the line of direct descent from that King of France whose happiest days were spent in tending the leper and making the rounds of the infirmary among the suffering.

We shall be glad to hear more of the days of Royaumont's splendour when Mr. de Navarro fulfills his promise to give us "a later comprehensive history of Saint Louis' 'beloved foundation.'"

ROSAMOND SMITH.

"THE ENGLISHWOMAN."

The message from the Prime Minister "to the Women Electors," which helped to make the March issue of *The Englishwoman* so particularly interesting, has been followed up, in the April issue, by messages from Mr. Asquith and Mr. Balfour. These two numbers of what is always such a very readable magazine are therefore of peculiar interest to suffragists. The April issue also contains articles on the New Hospital for Women, by Mrs. Ramsay Kerr; The Women Citizens' Association, by Mrs. Ogilvie Gordon; and (what gives it a pleasantly Celtic flavour) one by Miss E. Œ. Somerville on Women in the Hunting-Field; and another on Ireland, by Miss Susan Mitchell. In the latter the poetess brings to the consideration of Irish Nationalism her rare gifts of clear sight and an individual style.

THE RIGHT TO LIVE. By Max Plowman. (King & Jarrett. Price 1d.)

"Western civilisation has lost its bearings for this one and simple reason: it has substituted the ideal of national wealth for the ideal of national happiness." Upon this theme Mr. Plowman writes clearly, well, with courage and some anger. The issues upon which he touches are however too large, not for the writer, but for the vehicle of the pamphlet. Herein is the skeleton of a future book in which rhetoric, apostrophies and exclamation marks, suitable perhaps to a pamphlet, should find no place. Mr. Plowman's prose is better than his verse

E. B. C. J.

Correspondence.

UNMARRIED MOTHERS.

MADAM,—May I emphasise Mrs. Edwin Gray's excellent statement in THE COMMON CAUSE of March 8th as to the present unhappy plight of unmarried mothers and their children, and the urgent need for better social machinery to save them, and for drastic amendment to the dreadfully unfair laws against them.

Mrs. Gray pleads for the establishment throughout the country of representative committees appointed by Health Committees, to watch over and secure the general welfare of this class. Action in that direction is already being taken as the result of an important conference at the Mansion House on February 14th. A National Council is in process of formation to carry out the recommendations of a Special Committee of Enquiry aproved by the Meeting. These affirm the acute and widespread necessity for more effective and extensive provision of help and accommodation such as Waiting Homes for expectant mothers. Maternity Homes, Residential Homes for mothers and babies. Foster Mothers or Adopting Parents for babies, and special homes for suffering mothers; the aim, wherever possible, being to keep mother and child together for two years. The cases of widows and deserted wives and their children are very similar, and should be included in the above scheme. The cost would be borne by public grants, voluntary subscriptions and parents payments. The legal recommendations, largely based on the experiments of other lands, affect the law of affiliation, the abolition of the 5s. a week limit for payment by fathers, the institution of legal adoption, and the legitimation of the child by the subsequent marriage of parents. Whether the Government will embody such proposals in a Bill depends upon the force of public opinion, especially, one imagines, that of enfranchised women. Full information can be obtained from the Child Welfare Office, 845, Salisbury House, Finsbury-circus, E.C.

A. BLACK.

WOMEN POLICE.

MADAM,—Will you allow me a little space in which to appeal for yet more volunteers for the work of Women Police and Patrols? The demand for their services increases daily, and daily their scope grows wider and their position more assured. If your readers knew how much the future of this form of women's work depended upon our ability to fill such posts with the best possible material at the present time, they would not hesitate to offer themselves. We want an unlimited number of gentlewomen of twenty-seven to forty-five, height above 5 ft. 4 ins., with good physique, initiative and knowledge of the world. When trained they will start at a salary of from £2 weekly, plus uniform. The work can either be undertaken temporarily or as a permanent profession, and by training with us they are enabled to sample it before launching out irrevocably. I shall be glad to send full particulars to any applicant.

D. O. G. PETO, Director.

WAR TIME RACING.

MADAM,—Gatwick races were held as usual last week. We read that a "large crowd attended," that special trains were run from Victoria, and that motor-cars in plenty carried visitors to the race course, and telegrams could be sent from the station. The "Times" reminded its readers that "on July 4th, 1917, the President of the Board of Trade in a letter to Sir John Thursby, Senior Steward of the Jockey Club, announced the War Cabinet's decisions on racing, one of which was as

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"AT LAST!"

AS an enfranchised woman you probably saw, and were stirred by the fine sentiment of, the CARTOON bearing this title in a recent issue of *Punch*.

The subject, however, has its very practical as well as its sentimental side. Has your splendidly won freedom brought you a measure of independence, or is it likely one day to do so without the exercise of at least some initiative on your part?

You know that your father and your brother took advice regarding *their* problem of provision for dependents, and for old age, but do you yet realise that at least equally sound advice may be available for yourself?

Anyhow, it is worth while enquiring whether any helpful suggestion is forthcoming to meet the varying circumstances of your particular case, by a postcard addressed to the nearest Branch or Agency, or to the Head Office at Norwich of

THE NORWICH UNION LIFE INSURANCE SOCIETY,

THE OUTSTANDING BRITISH LIFE OFFICE.

follows:—"No special trains and no motor-cars and taxi-cabs to be run at race meetings." Then we hear that our short jaunts to the country are to be curtailed on account of train economies, and when omnibus and train accommodation is so limited as to render daily travelling a severe trial to workers, it is time that something was done. What do your readers think of such anomalies in these weeks of our nation's need?

Maud Llewelyn-Roberts.

THOSE BANNERS.

Madam,—The Suffrage movement has been so very rich in banners—and fine banners too—and we had only made arrangements to hang thirty at the Queen's Hall! Solomon, himself, might have been puzzled about choosing the right ones; we knew we should be sure to do something wrong. But it seems we added insult to injury through the printed word. We didn't display the banner of the Church League, and we published that they didn't send it. Now it appears that the Secretary was told by someone *not* to send it. *Peccavi, peccavit!* It was all a mistake—we had a place for it.

A Decorator.

QUERIES AND ANSWERS ABOUT WOMEN VOTERS AND THE PARLIAMENTARY REGISTER.

C.F.S.—Have I to take any action to ensure my name being on the Parliamentary register, and if so, what should I do?

Forms will be sent to all householders shortly, and on these forms the qualifications of those occupying the premises or any part thereof will be entered. From these forms the lists of voters will be prepared. These lists will be posted on public buildings on June 15th, and if your name is not on the list you must make your claim to be put on before July 5th.

M.K.G. has enquired at Post Offices and has looked on Church doors for the list of Parliamentary voters but cannot find them.

The lists are not yet prepared; they will be posted up on June 14th, and claims for qualified persons not on the lists must be made by July 5th.

Reports.

National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies.

The National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies.
President: Mrs. Henry Fawcett, LL.D.

Hon. Secretaries:
Miss Margaret Jones.
Hon. Mrs. Oliver Strachey (Parliamentary).
Miss Evelyn Atkinson (Literature).

Hon. Treasurer:
Mrs. Alys Russell.
Secretary:
Miss Gladys Davidson.

Offices—Evelyn House, 62, Oxford Street, London, W. 1.
Telegraphic Address—Volceless, Ox, London

Headquarters.

This week Irish suffragists are celebrating Mrs. Haslam's entry into her 90th year. Mrs. Haslam is helping in the organising of registration necessitated by the Representation of the People Act, and is co-operating with men as their political equal for the first time in her seventy years of public work! English suffragists will wish to congratulate Mrs. Haslam and the Irish Women's Suffrage and Local Government Association on this auspicious occasion.

In reply to a letter from Mrs. Fawcett about his beautiful setting of Blake's "Jerusalem," sung at the Suffragists' Celebration at the Queen's Hall, Sir Hubert Parry writes: "Thank you for what you say about the 'Jerusalem' song. I wish indeed it might become the women voters' hymn as you suggest. People seem to enjoy singing it, and having the vote ought to diffuse a good deal of joy, too, so they would combine happily."

"THE COMMON CAUSE" £2,000 FUND.

We gratefully acknowledge the following kind donations:—

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Already acknowledged ...	239	4	2
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Mrs. Preston	1	1	0
Miss Osler	5	0	0
Mrs. Edmund Garrett	2	0	0
Mrs. Cooper		10	0
Miss A. M. Allen		5	0
Mrs. Raleigh		10	6
The Misses Hertz	12	0	0
Dundee W.S.S.	1	1	0
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Mrs. Tarrom		5	0
Miss E. M. L. Atkinson ...	2	2	0
Miss K. F. Jones		5	0
Miss Juliet Reckitt	5	5	0
Mrs. Eyres	3	3	0
Miss Katherine de Hersant ...		10	0
Mrs. Marshall	1	1	0
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Mrs. L. A. Richards	1	0	0
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Mrs. Sinclair	2	0	0
H. A. M.	1	0	0
Mrs. L. A. Richards	1	0	0
	£537	0	10

N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospitals.

FURTHER GENEROUS DONATIONS FROM AMERICA.

Mrs. Laurie, Hon. Treasurer, S.W.H., Headquarters, 2, St. Andrew-square, Edinburgh, received on Good Friday the following two interesting letters in connection with the further generous donation of 100,000 dollars from the American Red Cross Society, along with a cheque for £10,471 4s. 1d. (50,000 dollars), the first instalment of this magnificent grant. To the untiring efforts of Miss Kathleen Burke, the Committee of the S.W.H. are greatly indebted for the extreme interest she has aroused in both America and Canada in the work for our Allies which the S.W.H. is carrying on.

83, Pall Mall, London, S.W. 1.
March 27th, 1918.

Mrs. Laurie,
Hon. Treasurer, Scottish Women's Hospitals,
Red House, Greenock.

MADAM,—I have to-day received a call from Major William Endicott, the American Red Cross Commissioner for Great Britain, who has handed to me a letter, of which I attach a copy.

The letter covers a cheque for £10,471 4s. 1d., and in accordance with the desire of the American Red Cross, we now send you our own cheque for that sum, and shall be obliged if you will sign and return the accompanying form of receipt.—Yours faithfully,

(Signed) ROB. A. HUDSON,
Chairman of the Finance Committee.

American Red Cross,
40, Grosvenor-gardens, S.W. 1.
March 27th, 1918.

Sir Robert Hudson.
British Red Cross,
83, Pall Mall, S.W. 1.

MY DEAR SIR ROBERT,—The American Red Cross dsires to give to the British Red Cross One Hundred Thousand Dollars ($100,000) for the Scottish Women's Hospital, one-half of this amount to be paid now and one-half on June 1st, the money to be transmitted by the British Red Cross to the Scottish Women's Hospital without restriction.

This grant is made at the instance of Miss Kathleen Burke as an expression of the belief in and approval of the work of the Hospital by the American Red Cross.

I therefore enclose herewith cheque to your order as Treasurer for £10,471 4s. 1d., being the equivalent of $50,000, and will cause the balance to be paid you on June 1st.—Yours very truly,

(Signed) WILLIAM ENDICOTT,
American Red Cross Commissioner for Great Britain.

Subscriptions are still urgently needed for much new work being undertaken, and should be sent to Mrs. Laurie, Hon. Treasurer, S.W.H., Red House, Greenock. Cheques to be crossed "Royal Bank of Scotland." Subscriptions for the London Units should be sent to the Right Hon. Viscountess Cowdray, or the Hon. Mrs. B. M. Graves, Hon. Treasurers, 66, Victoria Street, Westminster, London, S.W. 1.

	£	s.	d.
*Hutton War Charities Committee, per Rev. P. G. Hendry, Hon. Sec.	2	5	0
Mr. Nicolson, per Dr. Francis Ivens, Abbaye de Royaumont	5	5	0
*Collected by Miss Lucy Soutar and Miss Francis Jean Simpson, for upkeep of "Jan. Bairns Birthday" Bed (Royaumont:)	22	0	0
Miss D. L. Rayner		5	0
Miss J. H. M. Houston	1	0	0
Col. Millard Hunseker, per Miss Florence Harvey ...	10	14	6
"J. F." and "E. W."	2	0	0
The Junior Guild Murrayfield Parish Church, per Mr. Carmichael (£2), Duncan Neil Rabaghate (aged 6), Egypt (£1 1s.), Mrs. Bertha Fry Blowick Patterdale (£1 1s.), Mrs. Dickson (£1), Mrs. Macrae (£1), Miss Turnbull (£1); per Mrs. Archibald: Mrs. Tullie, Smith, Fairbairn, Mr. Peter Smith, Park, A. Archibald, McNice (£1). From Ulverston—Collected by Mrs. Moore: Misses Elleray, Atkinson, Phizackea, Stables, & Gaisford (10s.), Mrs. Stewart (10s.), "From Burntisland" (10s.), Misses G. and M. M. Irvine (10s.); per Mrs. Archibald: Mrs. Jessie Milner, M. Raters, Yule, Low & Todd (10s.), Miss Robina Oliphant (10s.), Miss A. H. Bighie (10s.), Mrs. Wilson (10s.), Dr. Cathells (10s.), Mrs. Isabel Graham (10s.), Miss Ritchie (10s.), per Miss Betty Baronchild (6s. 6d.), Miss A. P. Norfolk (5s.), Mrs. Hacon (5s.), Moses, Meg, and Agnes Wright (5s.), Mrs. W. Archibald (5s.), Mrs. M. MacGillivray (5s.), Miss Margaret Goldie (5s.), Lancelot			

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Further list of donations received to March 21st, 1918 :—			
*Orcadian W.S.S., per John A. Forsyth, Esq., Kirkwall, for upkeep of "Orcadian" Bed (Royaumont)	16	10	0
*Per Miss Isabel Basnett, Organiser, S.W.H., "Sale of Literature"	1	12	9
*Part of Heather Day Collections of the Hongkong St. Andrew's Society, per Sir Charles Addis, Manager, Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, London, E.C. 3 : Villers - Cotterets (£1,000), Salonica (£1,000), Elsie Inglis Ward (Royaumont) (£500)	2,500	0	0
Mrs. Johnston, Hon. Sec., City Chambers Red Cross Work Party, Edinburgh	1	1	0
*Contents of Collecting Box of a working woman member of Warwick and Leamington W.S.S., per Mrs. A. Hill, Hon. Secretary		3	3
Major W. Haig, D.S.O., R.A.M.C. (T.) France, per Miss Kinghorn, Crieff, for "Crieff" Bed (Royaumont)	2	2	0
*Collection at Thanksgiving Service under auspices of Farnworth W.S.S., Farnworth Parish Church, March 3rd, per Miss Evelyn Partington, Hon. Treas.	4	5	0
*Per Miss E. Rachel Jamieson, Organiser, S.W.H., *Workmen's Scheme:* *Leith Domestic Servants, per Mrs. Nicolson, Hon. Sec., Edinburgh (£6), *Women Clerks Accountant Office, G.P.O., Edinburgh, per Miss Sutherland (£2 5s.), *National Union Boot and Shoe Operatives, per Colin Paterson, Sec. (additional to Feb. 20th, subscription) (4s. 3d.), Messrs. Penton Russell & Co. (£1 1s.)	9	10	3
*Per Mrs Robertson, Kilmarnock : Employees, Messrs. Portland Forge & Co. (33rd contribution)	1	16	9
*Mrs. Farquhar	5	5	0
*Alex. Cupples	2	0	0
*Employees, Messrs. Poynter Son & Macdonalds, Greenock	9	0	0
*Clerks in the Claims and Record Office, Kew, per Miss Janet Smith, to continue "Claims and Record Office, Kew" Bed (Villers-Cotterets)	6	0	0
*Victoria Park Church Sabbath School, per Miss Mary A. B. Whytock, Sec. and Treas. ...	1	2	2
*Mrs. Macrae	5	0	0
Miss McLaren	1	0	0
Mrs. Young, per Miss Jackson	1	0	0
*Per Miss Geraldine Cooke, per Miss Margaret Murray Hogg, Sec. and Treas., Women's Unionist Association, Stirlingshire—Result of Lecture by Miss Vera Holme in Stirlingshire	15	14	6
"Thisbe"		10	0
*Miss K. M. Loudon, Cantine des Dames Ecossaises, Creil, France, to continue "Charles Loudon" Bed (Royaumont)...	25	0	0
*Per Mrs. Aldridge, Organiser, S.W.H. : "Employees, Messrs. Thos. Firth & Sons Ltd., War Fund," per H. Green, Esq., Joint Hon. Sec., Result of appeal made by Mrs. Aldridge (£50), Result of meetings addressed by Mrs. Aldridge in March in Messrs. Hadfield's Ltd., nr. Sheffield : Some of the Staff, per T. H. Howarth, Esq. (£5), Collection at Works Gates from Employees (£2 16s. 8d.), Employees, Messrs. Joshua Wilson & Sons (£1 12s.) ...	59	8	8
*Huddersfield W.S.S., per Mrs. Harrop, Hon. Treas., to continue "Emily Frances Siddon" Bed (Corsica)	25	0	0
"A Well Wisher"		5	0
*Robert J. Duncan, Esq. ...	2	0	0
*Birkenhead W.S.S., per Miss Mary E. Dalby, Hon. Treas., to continue "Birkenhead" Bed (Royaumont)	3	4	0
*Mrs. Blane, Nairn, to continue "Malcolm Blane" Bed (Royaumont)	25	0	0
	£298,968	19	1

* Denotes further donations.

Further List of Beds Named.

Names of Beds.	*Donors.*
"Orcadian" (Royaumont, further) ...	Orcadian W.S.S., per John A. Forsyth, Esq. ... ...
"Charles Loudon" (Royaumont, further 6 months)	Miss K. M. Loudon, Creil.
"Emily Frances Siddon" (Corsica, further 6 months)	Huddersfield W.S.S., per Mrs. Harrop, Hon. Treas.
"Malcolm Blane" (Royaumont, further 6 months)	Mrs. Blane, Alliton, Nairn.
"Nottingham W.S.S." (America Unit)...	Nottingham W.S.S., per Miss Dowson, Hon. Secretary.
"Gerrard's Cross" (Royaumont, 6 mos.)	Gerrard's Cross, per Miss M. Barnard Davis, Hon. Secretary.
"Jan. Bairns Birthday" (Royaumont)	Collected by Miss Lucy Soutar and Miss Francis Jean Simpson.

LONDON UNITS
of the Scottish Women's Hospitals.

	£	s.	d.
Donations and Collections received in February, 1918 :—			
Already acknowledged ...	63,206	14	1
Mrs. Percy Bigland's At Home : Collection (£4 17s. 1d.), Miss Hull, donation (£3 3s.), Miss F. Randall, donation (5s.) ...	8	5	1
Miss A. Leigh Browne, "Elsie Inglis Unit"	2	0	0
Miss Catherine Corfe, "Elsie Inglis Unit"		5	0
County Secondary School, Fulham : Collection from Pupils, per Mrs. Tucker...	2	5	0
Per Mrs. Cowell, Blackheath Meeting, Collection	4	11	2
Miss H. M. Dumas (donation)...	5	0	0
Girls of Leytonstone Co. High School (donation)		10	0
Mrs. Graham, "Elsie Inglis Unit"	2	2	0
Mrs. M. J. M. Hill, "Elsie Inglis Unit"	1	1	0
Mrs. Hinde (monthly donation)		5	0
Miss V. L. Holmes, collection, Kirkby Lonsdale	7	15	6
Per Mrs. Kitching : The Hon. Mrs. Haverfield's Meeting at Boscombe	5	5	0
Miss D. S. Mercer, "Elsie Inglis Unit"	1	1	0
The British School of Archæology in Egypt, per Mrs. Flinders Petrie	146	19	8
Tiffin Girls' School, per Miss Watson	4	2	0
Mrs. J. Merrett Wade (donation)	5	5	0
C. A. Wilkinson, Esq., for and on behalf of H. R. Baines & Co., *The Daily Graphic* ...	60	16	6
Young People of St. James's Church of Scotland, East Dulwich, Proceeds of Concert ...	7	6	9
	£53,471	9	7

Forthcoming Meetings (N.U.W.S.S.)

APRIL 5.

Chester—The Holborn—Members' Meeting—Speaker: Mrs. Greville Stallybrass, B.A., on "The Future of the N.U.W.S.S."—Chairman, Mrs. Redman 7.30 p.m.

APRIL 8.

Birmingham—Erdington—Mrs. Ring—Selly Oak Co-operative Guild—Mrs. Ring 3 p.m. and 8 p.m.
Hampstead—"Mothers' Union" Combined Meeting, St. Stephen's Hall, Haverstock Hill, N.W.—Speaker: Miss Walford—Subject: "What Women can Give the State" 3 p.m.

APRIL 9.

Birmingham—Rotton Park Liberal Association—Mrs. Osler 7.30 p.m.
Kensington—Unicorn Club, 84, Prince's Road, Notting Hill, W. 11—Speaker: Miss Price—Subject: "The Responsibility of the Vote" 8 p.m.
Leamington—Town Hall, Public Meeting—Speakers: Mrs. Fawcett, LL.D., and the Countess of Selborne—Chair: Rev. A. S. Duncan-Jones—Subject: "Women as Citizens" (Admission free; front seats, 1s., to be obtained Messrs. Dale, Forty & Co., Parade) 8 p.m.

APRIL 10.

Worcester—Annual Meeting—Mrs. Ring 7.30 p.m.

APRIL 11.

Denmark Hill—The People's Church, Windsor Road, S.E.—Speaker: Miss Rosamond Smith—Subject: "The Education Bill" 7 p.m.
Peckham—B.W.T.A. Meeting, College Hall, High Street, Peckham—Speaker: Mrs. Corbett Fisher—Subject: "Women's New Place in Politics" 3 p.m.

APRIL 16.

Kensington—Britannia Club, 240, Ladbroke Grove—Speaker: Miss Laura Price—Subject: "The Responsibility of the Vote" 8 p.m.

Items of Interest.

A DEMONSTRATION IN PARIS.

On Sunday, March 24th, the demonstration organised in honour of the Association for the voluntary enlistment of Frenchwomen by the Committee of the *Effort de la France et de ses Alliés* was held in the great amphitheatre of the Sorbonne. Madame Raymond Poincaré, together with representatives of General Dubail, the Military Governor of Paris, the Cardinal-Archbishop, and the Rector of the Sorbonne were on the platform. The demonstration was punctuated by the explosion of the twenty-five shells fired on Paris by the long-range German gun.

N.U.T. CONFERENCE.

At the Annual Conference of the National Union of Teachers at the Cambridge Guildhall on April 1st, at which 1,100 delegates were present, the new President, Miss E. R. Conway, of Tiber Street Council School, Liverpool, said that if the woman was to fulfil her proper place in the educational system, it would be necessary for her to be acknowledged, when fully qualified, as the equal of her man colleague, with the same opportunities for development and promotion that he enjoyed.

IN THE INTEREST OF CHILDHOOD.

At the Annual Conference of the Shop Assistants' Union, held on April 1st, in London, resolutions were passed in favour of raising the school age to sixteen and the prohibition of the employment in shops of children under sixteen.

THE SOUTH AFRICAN PARLIAMENT AND W.S.

When General Lemener, in the South African Parliament gave notice of an amendment to Mr. Sampson's notice of the motion (asking for women's enfranchisement) — the amendement being to the effect that the House believed that political rights did no carry honour and esteem with them, and that therefore women were too dignified and noble to be exposed to the insults of political life, and that the grant of the franchise would not tend to promote women's interests, laughter and cries of Hear! Hear! were heard. This applause only strengthens the impression one has of the insincerity of such so-called respect for women. A "respect" of the same questionable kind is all that we can feel for such men as General Lemener and those who felt able to langh at his amendement.

We have received from the Jewish League for Women's Suffrage an interesting pamphlet on "The Jewish Woman in Religious Life." It is a reprint of an article in the "Jewish Review" and the substance of it was originally delivered as an address at the Women's Congress in Munich in 1912. The price is 2d., and it can be obtained from Mrs. Herbert Cohen, 2, Orme Court, London, W.

"The Evening Standard and St. James's Gazette," of March 25th, states with evident relief that "there is nothing really violent about" the NU.W.S.S. policy; and that "even those who are afraid of feminism . . . will be interested in the theory that, though equality for men and women in thought, word, and deed is to be desired, it doesn't mean identity." We hope this discovery will enable many people to sleep in peace

Two women were admitted as deaconesses last week by the Bishop of Llandaff.

Grave Danger of VARICOSE VEINS.

British Inventor's Great Discovery.

So many men and women to-day are not only doing their bit, but overdoing it, that there has been of late a very serious increase in Varicose Veins. This most dangerous condition has hitherto baffled all kinds of treatment, except the Surgeon's Knife, and is menacing the life of thousands daily.

Extraordinary interest, therefore, attaches to the news that a famous British Surgical Appliance Maker has succeeded in perfecting a wonderful Support for the relief and cure of Varicose Veins. It is made on an entirely new principle, gives the swollen and often inflamed vein firm but gentle support, and gradually re-educates the morbid vein back to that healthy action which prevents congestion and clotting, and so effects a complete cure. This new Support is arousing the greatest interest among Medical Men and Surgeons, and already Mr. Cooper, the Inventor, has been overwhelmed by congratulatory correspondence. In every case where it has been tried, it is giving the greatest immediate relief, while it greatly reduces the grave risks of those who suffer from this dangerous, venous condition. The demand for the new Appliance is enormous, and all sufferers from Varicose Veins should write for Full Particulars at once (a post-card will do), to Mr. D. M. Cooper, Surgical Appliance Maker (Dept. 811), 124, Holborn, London, E.C. 1 (next door to Gamage's).

Mr. Cooper can be seen personally every day (except Saturday) from 11 to 1 and from 2 to 4.

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For particulars of Scholarships and Bursaries, and for the College Calendar, apply to THE PRINCIPAL.

TRAINED TEACHER is forming classes (afternoon) in Rhythmical Gymnastics. Special experience with delicate pupils.—Miss Thompson, 9, Grafton-st., W.

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HOW THE WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE MOVEMENT BEGAN IN BRISTOL FIFTY YEARS AGO. With portraits. By S. J. Tanner. 1s. 6d. post free; 15s. per dozen.—Miss Tanner, 46, Downs Park West, Bristol.

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No. 1.—Bread and Maize Scones. No. 2.—Bread and Oaten Wafers. No. 3.—Cakes and Biscuits. Singly, 1½d.; set of three, 3d., post free.—From the Betterment Book Room, 40a, Rosslyn Hill, N.W. 3.

WANTED TO BUY.—New or old copy of "Woman Adrift," by Harold Owen.—Apply Box 7,368, COMMON CAUSE Office.

POSITIONS VACANT.

OFFICER'S wife seeks domesticated mother's help to share work of small modern house in Wimbledon; one child; nursemaid kept.—Apply Doherty, 22, Barnard Gardens, Wimbledon.

SECRETARY Wanted for Women's International League.—Apply by letter, stating qualifications, to the Hon. Secretary, W.I.L., 14, Bedford-row, High Holborn, W.C. 1.

WANTED immediately, Lady Accountant and Book-keeper for large Government Colony.—Apply, E. Picton Turbervill, Government Housing Colony, Coventry.

WANTED.—Educated girl for light housework and to supervise children out of school hours. Good salary.—76, Chesterton-road, Cambridge.

WANTED.—LADIES AS REPRESENTATIVES to a well-known old-established Insurance Company. An entirely new opening for women workers; whole or part time. Excellent prospects.—For particulars write Miss Rochford, c/o COMMON CAUSE Office, Evelyn House, 62, Oxford Street, W. 1.

POSITIONS WANTED.

LADY, giving up teaching, seeks post; daily secretary April; organiser; good correspondent; knowledge of French, shorthand, typing, book-keeping; good salary; letter only.—Miss M. Hillman, 12, Quadrant-rd., Thornton Heath.

NURSE (young), experienced in chronic work, disengaged May 4th.—Apply by letter, stating terms, N. H., 154, Queen's-road, Bayswater.

WORKING HOUSEKEEPER, elderly, wants situation in small family.—Recommended by Miss Sheepshanks, 15, Upper Cheyne-row, Chelsea, S.W. 3.

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LADY Small-holder would like another to join her. No capital needed.—Aldred, Dák Bungalow, Women Co-operative Farmers, Heathfield, Sussex.

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[Continued on page 692

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Continued from page 691

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